

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT

May 8, 2001

5:00 PM

Chairman O'Neil called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen O'Neil, Wihby, Clancy, Cashin, Lopez

Messrs: R. MacKenzie, S. Maranto, R. Ludwig, K. Sheppard

Chairman O'Neil addressed Item 3 of the agenda:

Communication from the Director of Planning submitting an amending resolution and revised authorization, which will allow for the establishing of a hazardous materials disposal project.

Resolution:

"Amending the 1992, 1996, 1999, and 2001 Community Improvement Program, transferring, and authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) for the 2001 CIP 420301 - Hazardous Materials Disposal Project."

Budget Authorization:

2001 420301 Hazardous Materials Disposal Project

On motion of Alderman Clancy, duly seconded by Alderman Cashin, it was voted that the Resolution and the budget authorization be approved.

Chairman O'Neil addressed Item 4 of the agenda:

FY 2002 Appropriating Resolution:

"Approving the Community Improvement Program for 2002, Raising and Appropriating Monies Therefore and Authorizing Implementation of Said Program."

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated there was a handout of proposed changes, but before you take that up I would ask that Item A be acted on.

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Lopez, it was voted to recommend to the Finance Committee that the resolution be amended by deleting all expedited projects.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated the next item reflects discussion of any proposed changes to the CIP resolution and in reality the Planning Director has submitted a list of proposed changes to CIP and it includes items for FY01 and FY02, as well as some transfers from older projects to cover items. If you want to take up this page and once you have acted on these then we can go back to the resolution and I can give you an appropriate motion for that.

Chairman O'Neil asked we don't need to take them one by one if everyone is comfortable with them correct.

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Cashin, it was voted to approve the changes as outlined on the sheet submitted by Robert MacKenzie.

Chairman O'Neil stated before we move on, I want to thank Bob and his staff for working very hard to not only assist the Mayor's Office in presenting the CIP budget but working with the Aldermen on the revision. I know it took a lot of work and I know that the Board appreciates it so thanks to all of you for your hard work on that.

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Cashin, it was voted to recommend that the proposed changes that were reflected regarding FY02 CIP budget be recommended as amendments to the resolution.

On motion of Alderman Cashin, duly seconded by Alderman Clancy, it was voted to recommend that the resolution ought to pass with amendments.

Chairman O'Neil addressed Item 5 of the agenda:

Resolutions:

"Amending the 2000 & 2001 Community Improvement Programs, transferring, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) for the 2001 CIP 710401 Downtown Area Maintenance Projects."

"Amending the 2000 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) for the 2000 CIP 410900 - Gang Interdiction Program."

"Amending the 2001 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Twenty Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Dollars and Seventy Nine Cents (\$29,880.79) for the 2001 CIP 411001 - Weed & Seed Coordinators."

"Amending the 2001 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Two Hundred Ninety Nine Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Four Dollars (\$299,354) for the 2001 CIP 411101 - Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies & EPO Program."

"Amending the 2001 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Three Hundred Seven Thousand Two Hundred Forty Three Dollars (\$307,243) for the 2001 CIP 411201 - COPS MORE."

"Amending the 2001 Community Improvement Program, authorizing and appropriating funds in the amount of Three Thousand Nine Hundred Forty Five Dollars and Sixty Cents (\$3,945.60) for the 2001 CIP 411301 - NH CLIQUE Campaign Patrols."

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Cashin, it was voted to suspend the reading.

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Cashin, it was voted that the resolutions ought to pass.

Alderman Levasseur asked on the \$15,000 one where they say they are going to transfer it where are they transferring it. Are they transferring it to a different account for downtown?

Mr. Maranto answered it is for downtown area maintenance.

Alderman Levasseur asked that was the original thing we were going to do with parking but now it is going to stay in maintenance for brick sidewalks and such.

Mr. Maranto answered that is correct.

Chairman O'Neil addressed Item 6 of the agenda:

CIP Budget Authorizations:

2000	410900	Gang Interdiction Programs - Revision #1
2000	712000	Downtown Parking Improvements - Revision #1
2001	411001	Weed & Seed Coordinators
2001	411101	Grants to Encourage Arrest Policies & EPO Program
2001	411201	COPS MORE 2001
2001	411301	NH CLIQUE Campaign Patrols
2001	710401	Downtown Area Maintenance

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Lopez, it was voted to approve the CIP budget authorizations.

Chairman O'Neil addressed Item 7 of the agenda:

Communication from the Deputy Public Works Director submitting an estimate to correct a flooding problem, which occurs in the Livingston Park/Walnut Creek/Clark Street area and recommending approval of the "Walnut Street Drain" project as presented.

On motion of Alderman Wihby, duly seconded by Alderman Cashin, it was voted to approve the project.

Chairman O'Neil addressed Item 8 of the agenda:

Communication from the Chief Sanitary Engineer submitting a proposed ordinance amendment to Chapter 52: Sewers by adding Section 52.160(E) relative to providing a user charge credit for those residents on the Tax Deferral for Elderly and Disabled Program.

On motion of Alderman Cashin, duly seconded by Alderman Wihby, it was voted to approve the ordinance amendment.

Chairman O'Neil addressed Item 9 of the agenda:

Communication from the Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation & Cemetery providing an update relative to usage of the West Memorial Field.

On motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Cashin, it was voted to receive and file this item.

Chairman O'Neil addressed Item 10 of the agenda:

Communication from the Director of Planning advising that the Traffic Department has been informed that PSNH is again offering the City an opportunity for a \$10,000 reimbursement towards the purchase of LED traffic lights.

On motion of Alderman Clancy, duly seconded by Alderman Lopez, it was voted to accept the funds.

Chairman O'Neil addressed Item 11 of the agenda:

Communication from the Director of Planning seeking direction as to whether to support a complete replacement of the Veterans Park Staging (\$70,851.00) noting there are sufficient funds in the Central Business District Revitalization Funds (not CBDSD funds) or the phased in approach as previously endorsed by the Committee.

Mr. MacKenzie stated the stage under the tent at Veteran's Park has been deteriorating for several years. There was a cost estimate for fixing the stage and I believe the cost estimate just to fix it was about \$40,000. There was also an estimate to completely replace it with a brand-new stage, which would extend the life considerably for \$70,000. So, we could do either approach. Either fix the existing one for \$40,000 or get a brand-new stage for \$70,000.

Chairman O'Neil stated the existing stage is tired.

Mr. MacKenzie stated yes and it has been patched a lot.

Chairman O'Neil stated it is quite old too, isn't it.

Mr. Ludwig stated it is 22 years old.

On motion of Alderman Clancy, duly seconded by Alderman Lopez, it was voted to authorize the Director of Planning to expend \$70,851 in Central Business District Revitalization funds to replace the Veterans Park Staging.

Alderman Lopez asked how does this compare to the portable stage. Have you looked into replacing the mobile stage versus the regular stage?

Mr. MacKenzie answered the mobile stage is in poor condition. I know that Parks & Recreation has been trying to replace it. I think it was submitted to see if it could be funded under the MER account but I am not aware that that mobile station has been replaced yet. Both stages are used fairly extensively.

Alderman Cashin asked where is the money coming from.

Mr. MacKenzie answered the money could come out of the Central Business District Revitalization Fund. Those are repayments for a HUD UDAG that came out of the Center of New Hampshire.

Chairman O'Neil addressed Item 12 of the agenda:

Communication from the Deputy Public Works Director requesting authorization to consider a 1988 Chevrolet Celebrity pool vehicle as surplus and that it be sent to the State auction, and further that they be allowed to replace the vehicle with the next available surplus police vehicle.

On motion of Alderman Cashin, duly seconded by Alderman Lopez, it was voted to approve this request.

Chairman O'Neil addressed Item 13 of the agenda:

Communication from the Chief of Police seeking authorization to accept a donation of a State Police surveillance vehicle to be add to their fleet.

Chief Driscoll stated I would like to advise the Committee that when we started to talk with the State Police about this vehicle they told us it was a donation. It is no longer a donation. They have some process by which they turn out their vehicles and they have attached a \$1,600 fee to this. I have spoken with Paul Beaudoin and he can find that money in a grant. We would still like to obtain the vehicle. It would replace a vehicle that we have now doing the same function that is a 1985. We think it is a very reasonable thing to do, but it is not a donation and I would have to clear that up.

Chairman O'Neil asked but you believe you can find some grant money to do that.

Chief Driscoll answered yes.

On motion of Alderman Cashin, duly seconded by Alderman Lopez, it was voted to approve this request.

Alderman Clancy asked what year is it.

Chief Driscoll answered I couldn't tell you. I have seen pictures of it and it is fairly new. The best thing about it is it has very sophisticated electronics on it and we want it more for the electronics than for the vehicle itself. The vehicle will be probably good for five, six or seven more years. They have replaced it with a state-of-the-art vehicle and we think it is a good deal.

Chairman O'Neil asked do you have any issue with plates or anything.

Chief Driscoll answered no. We are going to turn out this van that we have now and replace it.

Chairman O'Neil stated I got a call, Chief, regarding you receiving some money for a prom night program but I didn't get any paperwork on it. Do you know what I am talking about?

Chief Driscoll replied yes I do. We recently received an opportunity much like the one you just approved for NH Highway Safety for the NH Buckle-Up Click Program. We have a grant that is coming very, very soon for prom night coverage.

Chairman O'Neil asked but you don't have the paperwork yet.

Chief Driscoll answered no.

Chairman O'Neil stated by the time we meet again it will probably be too late, correct.

Chief Driscoll replied I don't think so. I think we can somehow expedite that. It is a small grant. It is highway safety. I got an e-mail from Dick Tracy today that said that we would have it by tomorrow. I need to sign it and turn it around.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated the Committee could recommend acceptance pending the Clerk receiving the paperwork and we will put it on the agenda for the Board meeting.

Chairman O'Neil asked the Chief to give a little explanation of what the money is for.

Chief Driscoll stated they have identified a block of money at highway safety and they are going to provide it to departments throughout the state to go out and do routine preventative patrols and proactive things like stopping by the high schools

and stopping by the prom locations trying to keep people from drinking and driving. There is no City match.

On motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Clancy, it was voted to approve acceptance of these grant funds pending receipt of paperwork by the City Clerk's Office.

Chairman O'Neil addressed Item 14 of the agenda:

Discussion relative to increasing penalties to landlords who refrain from having tenants remove garbage from outside of property on a weekly basis.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated this was an item that, as I recall, Alderman Sysyn brought up to the Board and asked for people to look into. I don't know if you want to refer that to...

Deputy Director Sheppard stated there is a meeting set-up for Thursday over at the Health Department with Police, Fire, Health, Highway and Building to discuss these issues. I guess the intent is to look at all fines at one time.

Chairman O'Neil asked didn't Administration have this.

Deputy Clerk Johnson answered I believe it was referred to both Committees.

Alderman Levasseur asked that a meeting be set-up with a bunch of departments. I asked Zoning what they wanted us to do and Mr. LaFreniere sent me a letter saying they want to triple the fees because they are just ridiculous but they wanted everybody to be involved.

Chairman O'Neil stated if Highway sees something that they maybe haven't in the past been able to enforce then maybe they can...or Police or whoever so we don't get into this it is not my territory.

Alderman Levasseur replied I think we should just have one department handle this.

Chairman O'Neil responded either one or give multiple departments some authority. So there is a meeting set-up for Thursday and you will report back to the CIP Committee.

Deputy Director Sheppard stated we are to report back to the Committee on Administration.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated Administration has been looking at the same item so I don't know if you want to refer it into one Committee or leave it in both.

Chairman O'Neil replied we will send it to Administration.

On motion of Alderman Cashin, duly seconded by Alderman Lopez, it was voted to refer this item to the Committee on Administration.

Alderman Lopez stated in reference to the policy downtown where they are going to be picking up seven days a week, are you going to be discussing that or is that all done.

Deputy Director Sheppard replied we currently pick up seven days a week downtown and we are actually looking to make that a mandatory totter program with the 95 and 65 gallon totters in the downtown area so that will be discussed on Thursday as part of the ordinance change.

Alderman Lopez stated I just want to bring to your attention that a couple of businessmen mentioned that they put their garbage out at night and the truck comes in the morning. If there is a big windstorm, it flies all over the place. I don't know if that has been addressed in any committee.

Deputy Director Sheppard replied I haven't heard anything. These totters, if you have seen them they have covers to them that are actually attached to the buckets so I would be surprised if the garbage was coming out.

Alderman Lopez asked could you just talk to former Mayor Bob Shaw please.

Alderman Cashin asked you know why this was brought in right. It has to do with residential areas. People are putting out their garbage on a Monday and it doesn't get picked up until Friday or the following week and we want to stop that.

Deputy Director Sheppard answered right. Actually before that letter was written by Alderman Levasseur we had correspondence with the City Solicitor's Office looking at the downtown and at the City and increasing the fees so this is timely for us. We were looking to increase the fees because right now it is a \$25 fine. First there is a notification and then they get a \$25 fine and we don't feel that is really getting people's attention.

Chairman O'Neil replied the key in my opinion is there has to be more than just one or two people from Highway enforcing it. Building has a role and the Fire Department if they see something let them be able to write up a violation or something or if a police officer sees something on a Saturday let them write a

violation. We have been putting it on one or two people and that is why it has been difficult to enforce.

TABLED ITEMS

15. Communication from the Director of Planning regarding the possible land acquisition of a piece of property on the westerly edge of Wolf Park.
(Tabled 09/18/00)

On motion of Alderman Cashin, duly seconded by Alderman Clancy, it was voted to remove this item from the table.

On motion of Alderman Cashin, duly seconded by Alderman Lopez, it was voted to receive and file this item.

16. Copy of a communication from the Deputy Finance Officer to Alderman Gatsas relative to funding options for Millyard parking facilities.
(Tabled 9/18/00)

This item remained on the table.

17. Ordinance Amendment:

"Amending Section 37.03 "Advisory Board" by inserting new language prohibiting persons holding positions within the entity association, or organization designated by the Advisory Board to manage services within the Central Business Service District from serving as members of the Advisory Board."

(Tabled 01/09/01 pending further information from Messrs. MacKenzie and Muller.)

This item remained on the table.

18. Communication from the Director of Planning submitting a copy of a contractor's estimate in the amount of \$152,750 to make repairs to the Blood Mausoleum.
(Tabled 2/13/01)

This item remained on the table.

19. Communication from the South West Little League Board of Directors seeking funding of approximately \$30,000 to aid in the completion of the Canteen project at the field.

On motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Cashin it was voted to remove this item from the table.

On motion of Alderman Lopez, duly seconded by Alderman Cashin, it was voted to receive and file this item.

20. Communication from Robert S. MacKenzie submitting updated information on HOME projects under Manchester Neighborhood Housing Services as requested by the CIP Committee.
(Tabled 12/18/00 and remained tabled 04/10/01 pending separate meeting to address this issue.)

This item remained on the table.

There being no further business, on motion of Alderman Cashin, duly seconded by Alderman Lopez, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee